

EV-makers seek to extinguish battery fire problem before it explodes

Article

The news: EV companies are working on battery modifications to make them less prone to overheating and catching fire.

- Following multiple incidents of electric scooters catching fire in India, leading to casualties, companies like **Battrix**, **Sun Mobility**, and **Bounce** are seeking preventive solutions, [per](#) The Economic Times.
- **Gogoro**, which makes swappable batteries for light EVs, just released a **swappable solid-state battery** prototype it says is virtually fireproof, [per](#) Electrek.

Why it's worth watching: Although EVs are [less likely](#) to catch fire than their gas-powered counterparts, when they do ignite, the conflagrations can be more intense and harder to put out, justifying steps to reduce batteries' flammability, such as by adding [coolant](#).

The opportunity: Proactively dealing with EV battery safety issues, rather than waiting until EVs are packed like sardines in hot parking garages, will prevent any retroactive backlash from loss of life and property.

- Substituting unstable **cobalt** for other materials could help avoid the costly metal that's linked to [labor rights](#) abuses in Africa as well as reduce flammability.
- In addition to minimizing fire risk by letting batteries cool as they charge, **battery swapping** can also [reduce the cost](#) of EVs and the wait-time for charging.

Key Reasons for the Low Uptake of Electric Vehicles (EVs) in the US According to US Auto Dealers, April 2021

% of respondents

Charging infrastructure/range anxiety

29%

Appropriate pricing

24%

Consumer awareness

15%

Technological capabilities of recent premium EVs vs. Tesla

11%

Manufacturer marketing strategies

9%

Lack of options

7%

Government subsidies

6%

Source: J.P. Morgan, "Auto Annual Dealership Survey," April 6, 2021

265411

eMarketer | [InsiderIntelligence.com](https://www.insiderintelligence.com)